

I/We claim:

1. A connector for a ribbon cable, comprising:

a housing having a ribbon cable receiving region  
extending between a front surface and a back surface of  
the housing; and

retention clips arranged on the back surface of the  
housing that extend into the ribbon cable receiving  
region, the retention clips being arranged at a fixed  
spacing such that the ribbon cable receiving region is  
accessible between each of the retention clips for  
receiving contact elements.

2. The connector according to claim 1, wherein the retention  
clips are substantially u-shaped and have a first side  
that forms a contact surface for the ribbon cable and a  
second side that forms a bearing and retention surface  
for the ribbon cable.

3. The connector according to claim 1, wherein the retention  
clips are arranged parallel to each other.

4. The connector according to claim 1, wherein the housing  
has an actuation surface that extends adjacent to the

ribbon cable receiving recess for biasing the contact elements toward the ribbon cable receiving region.

5. The connector according to claim 1, wherein the housing  
5 has longitudinal side walls that extend between the front surface and the back surface, at least one longitudinal side wall having an elastic support element with a cam for positively locking the connector to a contact socket.
- 10 6. The connector according to claim 1, further comprising retaining pins for retaining the ribbon cable in the housing.
- 15 7. The connector according to claim 6, wherein the retaining pins extend between an upper surface and lower surface of the housing.
8. The connector according to claim 7, wherein the retaining pins are fixed to the housing.
- 20 9. The connector according to claim 1, wherein the retention clips are molded to the housing.

10. A connector, comprising:

a housing having a ribbon cable receiving region extending between a front surface and a back surface of the housing;

5 a ribbon cable disposed in the ribbon cable receiving region and having contact sections arranged at the back surface of the housing; and

retention clips arranged on the back surface of the housing that receive a portion of the ribbon cable, the  
10 retention clips being arranged at a fixed spacing such that the contact sections of the ribbon cable are accessible between each of the retention clips for receiving contact elements.

15 11. The connector according to claim 10, wherein the retention clips are substantially u-shaped and are arranged parallel to each other.

12. The connector according to claim 11, wherein the  
20 retention clips have a first side that forms a contact surface for the ribbon cable and a second side that forms a bearing and retention surface for the ribbon cable.

13. The connector according to claim 10, wherein the housing has an actuation surface that extends adjacent to the contact sections for biasing the contact elements toward the contact sections.

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14. The connector according to claim 10, wherein the housing has longitudinal side walls that extend between the front surface and the back surface, at least one longitudinal side wall having an elastic support element with a cam  
10 for positively locking the connector to a contact socket.

15. The connector according to claim 10, further comprising retaining pins for retaining the ribbon cable in the housing.

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16. The connector according to claim 15, wherein the retaining pins extend between an upper surface and lower surface of the housing.

- 20 17. The connector according to claim 16, wherein the retaining pins are fixed to the housing.

18. The connector according to claim 10, wherein the contact sections are formed on top and bottom surfaces of the ribbon cable.

5 19. The connector according to claim 10, wherein the retention clips are molded to the housing.

20. A connector arrangement, comprising:

10 a contact socket having first and second contact elements;

a connector having a ribbon cable receiving region extending between a front surface and a back surface of the housing;

15 a ribbon cable disposed in the ribbon cable receiving region, the ribbon cable having contact sections formed on top and bottom surfaces thereof; and

20 retention clips formed on the back surface of the housing that receive a portion of the ribbon cable, the retention clips being arranged at a fixed spacing such that the contact sections are accessible between each of the retention clips by the first and second contact elements.

21. The connector arrangement according to claim 20, wherein the retention clips are substantially u-shaped and are arranged parallel to each other.

5 22. The connector arrangement according to claim 20, wherein the housing has an actuation surface for biasing the second contact element toward the respective contact sections.

10 23. The connector arrangement according to claim 22, wherein the second contact element includes third and fourth contact elements that essentially form an oval shape.

15 24. The connector arrangement according to claim 20, wherein the housing has longitudinal side walls that extend between the front surface and the back surface, at least one longitudinal side wall having an elastic support element with a cam for positively locking the connector to the contact socket.

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25. The connector arrangement according to claim 20, further comprising retaining pins for retaining the ribbon cable in the housing.

26. The connector arrangement according to claim 25, wherein the retaining pins extend between an upper surface and lower surface of the housing.